AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) In a computer-implemented rating system having access to a database populated with data concerning at least one non-economic factor for a company, a method comprising:

providing an interface capable of displaying at least a portion of the data;

enabling a user to input at least one coefficient value through the interface;

associating each said coefficient value with a respective data concerning the at least one non-economic factor;

computing a sustainability score using the at least one ~~of the inputted~~ coefficient value ~~values~~ and the data, the sustainability score utilizing the at least one non-economic factor in a formula that applies the associated coefficient value to the respective data concerning the at least one non-economic factor;

permitting the user to view the formula through the interface; and

outputting the sustainability score, the sustainability score defining a rating of the company which incorporates the at least one non-economic factor.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

storing the user-input coefficient value in an account associated with the user.

3. (Currently Amended) In a computer-implemented rating system having access to a database populated with data concerning at least one non-economic factor for multiple companies, each company belonging to an industry, a method comprising:

providing an interface capable of displaying at least a portion of the data and enabling the user to select at least one of the ~~companies and the one of the~~ industry and a company within the industry ~~industries~~;

accepting ~~permitting a user to input~~ at least one user-input coefficient value ~~values~~ through the interface;

associating each said coefficient value with a respective data concerning the at least one non-economic factor for a company;

computing a sustainability score using at least one ~~of~~ said ~~the inputted~~ coefficient value and the data concerning the selected one of the companies, the sustainability score utilizing the at least one non-economic factor in a formula that is viewable by the user through the interface; and

outputting the sustainability score, the sustainability score defining a rating of the industry or company within the industry incorporating the at least one non-economic factor.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein

the sustainability score for an industry is computed from data concerning non-economic factors of companies in the industry.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising

presenting the formula to the user through the interface.

6. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

subsequently receiving later data concerning at least one non-economic factor for a company; and

computing a subsequent sustainability score for the company using the later data.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising:

waiting to receive a verification flag respecting the later data prior to computing the subsequent sustainability score.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein

the later data is received from at least one of the public and the company.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the data concerns non-economic factors for multiple companies,

the method further comprising:

defining a derivative index product comprising a selection of companies among the multiple companies,

pricing the derivative product; and

offering the derivative product for purchase and sale in a public market.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein

the later data is received as a response to a questionnaire.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

establishing a secure entity reporting channel, and

wherein the later data is received over the channel.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein

the sustainability score includes a plurality of individual scores corresponding to discrete sustainability criteria.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein

the coefficient value is used to compute at least one of the individual scores.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein

the sustainability score is computed by combining at least two of the individual scores, and

the coefficient value is used to affect how the individual scores are combined.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein

the discrete sustainability criteria include at least one of a social responsibility rating, an environmental responsibility rating, and a corporate governance rating.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein
the discrete sustainability criteria further include an economic rating.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
benchmarking the sustainability score against a reference score.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein
the data concerns non-economic factors for multiple governments,
the interface further enables the user to select one of the governments, and
computing uses the data concerning the selected one of the governments.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer for implementing a rating system, the computer having access to a database populated with data concerning at least one non-economic factor for a company, the computer comprising:

means for displaying at least a portion of the data and a formula that generates a sustainability score;

means for enabling a user to input at least one coefficient value;

means for associating each user-input coefficient value with a respective non-economic factor; and

a processor configured to compute the sustainability score using the formula, the formula mathematically applying each associated ~~provided with at least one of the~~ user-input ~~inputted~~ coefficient ~~values~~ value to ~~and~~ the respective non-economic factor ~~data~~,

wherein the displaying means outputs the sustainability score, the sustainability score defining a rating of the company incorporating the at least one non-economic factor.

20. (Original) The computer of claim 19, further comprising:
means for storing the user-input coefficient value in an account associated with the user.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer for implementing a rating system, the computer having access to a database populated with data concerning at least one non-economic factor for multiple companies, each company belonging to an industry, the computer comprising:

means for displaying at least a portion of the data and a formula that generates a sustainability score;

means for enabling a user to input at least one coefficient value;

means for and associating each user-input coefficient value with a respective non-economic factor;

the means for enabling the user further enables the user to select at least one of the industry and a company within the industry ~~one of the companies and one of the industries~~, and

a processor configured to compute the sustainability score using ~~the data concerning the selected one of the companies~~ the formula provided with at least one associated ~~of the inputted~~ coefficient value ~~values~~ and the respective non-economic data concerning the selected industry or company within the industry;

wherein the displaying means outputs the sustainability score, the sustainability score defining a rating of the company incorporating the at least one non-economic factor.

22. (Original) The computer of claim 21, wherein

the sustainability score for an industry is computed from data concerning non-economic factors of companies in the industry.

23 (Original) The computer of claim 21, wherein

a plurality of sustainability scores for respective companies is computed and compared.

24. (Original) The computer of claim 21, further comprising:

means for subsequently receiving later data concerning at least one non-economic factor for a company; and

means for computing a subsequent sustainability score for the company using the later data.

25. (Original) The computer of claim 24, further comprising:

means for waiting to receive a verification flag respecting the later data prior to computing the subsequent sustainability score.

26. (Original) The computer of claim 24, wherein
the later data is received from the public.

27. (Original) The computer of claim 24, wherein
the later data is received from the company.

28. (Original) The computer of claim 24, wherein
the later data is received as a response to a questionnaire.

29. (Original) The computer of claim 24, further comprising:
means for establishing a secure entity reporting channel, and
wherein the later data is received over the channel.

30. (Original) The computer of claim 19, wherein
the sustainability score includes a plurality of individual scores corresponding to discrete sustainability criteria.

31. (Original) The computer of claim 30, wherein
the coefficient value is used to compute at least one of the individual scores.

32. (Original) The computer of claim 30, wherein
the sustainability score is computed by combining at least two of the individual scores, and
the coefficient value is used to affect how the individual scores are combined.

33. (Original) The computer of claim 30, wherein
the discrete sustainability criteria include at least one of a social responsibility rating, an environmental responsibility rating, and a corporate governance rating.

34. (Original) The computer of claim 33, wherein
the discrete sustainability criteria further include an economic rating.

35. (Original) The computer of claim 19, further comprising:

means for benchmarking the sustainability score against a reference score.

36. (Original) The computer of claim 19, wherein

the data concerns non-economic factors for multiple governments,

the interface further enables the user to select one of the governments, and

the means for computing is adapted to use the data concerning the selected one of the governments.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer for implementing a rating system, the computer having access to a database populated with data concerning at least one non-economic factor, the computer comprising:

an interface configured to display at least a portion of the data, to enable input of at least one coefficient value, to associate each user-input coefficient value with a respective non-economic factor, and to display a formula useful in computing a sustainability score; and

a processor configured to compute the sustainability score using the formula in conjunction with any input coefficient values and the data,

wherein the interface is further capable of outputting the sustainability score, the sustainability score defining a rating of the company incorporating the at least one non-economic factor.

38. (Original) The computer of claim 37, further comprising:

a memory for storing the input coefficient values in an account associated with the user.

39. (Currently Amended) A computer for implementing a rating system, the computer having access to a database populated with data concerning at least one non-economic factor for multiple companies, each company belonging to an industry, the computer comprising:

an interface configured to display at least a portion of the data, to enable input of at least one coefficient value, to associate each user-input coefficient value with a respective non-economic factor, and to enable the user to select at least one of the industry and a company

within the industry ~~one of the companies and one of the industries~~, and to display a formula useful in computing a sustainability score; and

a processor configured to compute the sustainability score using the formula in conjunction with any input coefficient values and the data concerning the selected industry or company within the industry ~~the selected one of the companies~~;

wherein the interface is further capable of outputting the sustainability score, the sustainability score defining a rating incorporating the at least one non-economic factor of the selected industry or company within the industry.

40. (Original) The computer of claim 39, wherein

the sustainability score for an industry is computed from data concerning non-economic factors of companies in the industry.

41. (Original) The computer of claim 39, wherein

a plurality of sustainability scores for respective companies is computed and compared.

42. (Original) The computer of claim 39, wherein

the interface is capable of receiving later data concerning at least one non-economic factor for a company; and

the processor is adapted to further compute a subsequent sustainability score for the company using the later data.

43. (Original) The computer of claim 42, wherein

the processor is adapted to further wait to receive a verification flag respecting the later data prior to computing the subsequent sustainability score.

44. (Original) The computer of claim 42, wherein

the later data is received from the public.

45. (Original) The computer of claim 42, wherein

the later data is received from the company.

46. (Original) The computer of claim 45, wherein

the later data is received as a response to a questionnaire.

47. (Original) The computer of claim 45, wherein

the interface is adapted to further establish a secure entity reporting channel, and

the later data is received over the channel.

48. (Original) The computer of claim 37, wherein

the sustainability score includes a plurality of individual scores corresponding to discrete sustainability criteria.

49. (Original) The computer of claim 48, wherein

the coefficient value is used to compute at least one of the individual scores.

50. (Original) The computer of claim 48, wherein

the sustainability score is computed by combining at least two of the individual scores, and

the coefficient value is used to affect how the individual scores are combined.

51. (Original) The computer of claim 48, wherein

the discrete sustainability criteria include at least one of a social responsibility rating, an environmental responsibility rating, and a corporate governance rating.

52. (Original) The computer of claim 51, wherein

the discrete sustainability criteria further include an economic rating.

53. (Original) The computer of claim 37, further comprising:

the processor is adapted to further benchmark the sustainability score against a reference score.

54. (Original) The computer of claim 37, wherein

the data concerns non-economic factors for multiple governments,

the interface further enables the user to select one of the governments, and

computing uses the data concerning the selected one of the governments.

55. (Cancelled)

56. (New) In a computer-implemented rating system having access to a database populated with data concerning at least one non-economic factor, the at least one non-economic factor including at least one of a social factor, an environmental factor, and a corporate governance factor, a method comprising:

providing an interface capable of displaying at least a portion of the data;

enabling a user to input at least one coefficient value through the interface;

associating each of the at least one user-input coefficient values with the data concerning a respective non-economic factor, each associated user-input coefficient representing a weighting of the respective non-economic factor;

computing a sustainability score using a formula configured to mathematically apply each associated user-input coefficient value to the data concerning the respective non-economic factor;

permitting the user to view the formula through the interface; and

outputting the sustainability score, the sustainability score defining a rating of the company which incorporates the at least one non-economic factor.